AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-24.   (Canceled)

25.   (Currently Amended) A medical implant comprising:

a first bone anchor;

a second bone anchor; and

a brace comprising:

[[a]]means for pivoting the brace from a first position to a second position, wherein in the second position the brace couples the first bone anchor to the second bone anchor;

[[a]]means for slidingly adjusting the means for pivoting along at least a portion of the longitudinal length of the brace; and

[[a]]means for transmitting torque between the brace and [[the]]at least one of the first and second bone anchors.

26.   (Currently Amended) The [[device]] medical implant of claim 25 wherein the means for pivoting further comprises a supporting means wherein the supporting means comprises:

a pair of bearings displaced on opposite sides of the brace while in the second position, each of the pair of bearings interfacing with an indentation longitudinally displaced along the brace

a pair of bearings displaced on opposite sides of the captured brace, the bearings interfacing with the brace by indentations longitudinally displaced along the brace.

27.   (Canceled)

28.   (Canceled)

29.   (Currently Amended) The [[device]] medical implant of claim [[26]] 25 wherein the medical implant further comprises:

a receptacle; and

the brace comprises:

means for engaging a receptacle attached to the second bone anchor spaced apart from the first bone anchor, the device further comprising;

means for polyaxially attaching the receptacle to the head of the second bone anchor; and wherein the receptacle comprises means for engaging with the brace.

30.   (Currently Amended) The medical implant [[device]]of claim [[29]] 25 wherein the first and second anchor engagement means further comprising :comprise:

means for locking the brace and the anchors in a fixed relationship with each other.